



# CREDIT RIVER TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

18985 Meadow View Lane  
Prior Lake, MN 55372  
[www.creditriver-mn.gov](http://www.creditriver-mn.gov)

DECEMBER 2008

*Introducing*

## The Newsletter

Welcome to Credit River Township's first official Newsletter! The Town Board would like to promote communication with township residents and has authorized a volunteer committee to implement this important communication vehicle. This Newsletter has been fully approved by the Town Board of Supervisors.

If you have something you would like to see in this Newsletter or a community event you would like to publish, please send an email to [newsletter@creditriver-mn.gov](mailto:newsletter@creditriver-mn.gov). In an effort to reduce the cost of distribution, please sign up on the Township website to receive the Newsletter electronically. This saves both the cost of printing and mailing. Thank you for taking the time to read this Newsletter and we hope you find the following information interesting and useful.

## Snowplowing Update

In order to help the township provide the best and most economical snow removal service, the board asks residents to be aware of the following:

1. Mailboxes damaged during snow removal will be evaluated on a case by case basis. Only those mailboxes (properly installed and located) damaged by direct contact with the snowplow will be eligible for reimbursement up to \$50.
2. Please do not deposit driveway snow on the roadway.
3. Township ordinance prohibits the parking of vehicles on township roads.

Township contacts for plowing are Chairman Leroy Schommer at 612-290-0506 and Supervisor Tom Kraft at 612-384-3631. For more information, go to [www.creditriver-mn.gov](http://www.creditriver-mn.gov) to see the complete Snow & Ice Control Policy and the Parking Ordinance.

## Happy Holidays

*From the Credit River Township Board*



## Township Important Dates

December 15	6:00 p.m. Board Meeting at town hall
<b>December 30</b>	<b>Board Candidate filing period begins</b>
January 5	6:00 p.m. Board Meeting at town hall
<b>January 13</b>	<b>Board Candidate filing period ends</b>
January 13	7:00 p.m. Citizens Advisory Group at town hall
January 20	6:00 p.m. Board Meeting at town hall
February 2	6:00 p.m. Board Meeting at town hall

## Fiscal Impact Study to Determine if Credit River Should Remain a Township

In the last couple of years, the township board has been investigating the possibility of incorporation – which would mean no longer being a township. There are several potential benefits to incorporation: stabilizing municipal borders, planning and zoning independent of the county, and the possibility of qualifying for additional government aids (such as LGA and State Highway Funding) that are not available to townships.

Residents have asked about the financial consequences – or fiscal impact – and are there other options and at what cost? To answer these questions, the town board has engaged Ehlers & Associates to conduct a long range fiscal impact study. The three scenarios being explored are incorporating as a city, remaining a township and possibly losing some area to annexation by surrounding cities, and the third being arranging for an orderly annexation (similar to Spring Lake Township with the city of Prior Lake) of the urban expansion area by the city of Savage.

The study is anticipated to take three to four months with results hopefully available by the annual meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Check [www.creditriver-mn.gov](http://www.creditriver-mn.gov) for updates.

## Credit River Township 2009 Election

The annual township election is **Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009**, and the filing period is just around the corner.

There are four positions on the ballot in 2009. Three supervisor positions: two for three year terms and one for a two year term. The treasurer position (clerk and treasurer positions are two year terms) is also on the ballot.

Interested residents can file for candidacy beginning **December 30<sup>th</sup>**. The filing period closes on **January 13<sup>th</sup>**. For more information on the election and open positions, please refer to [www.creditriver-mn.gov](http://www.creditriver-mn.gov) or contact the township clerk at [clerk@creditriver-mn.gov](mailto:clerk@creditriver-mn.gov) or 952-440-5515.



Visit Our Website at [www.creditriver-mn.gov](http://www.creditriver-mn.gov) – Email: [newsletter@creditriver-mn.gov](mailto:newsletter@creditriver-mn.gov)

## Township Contact Information

Name	Partial Listing of Responsibilities	Photo
<b>Leroy Schommer</b> Phone: (612) 290-0506 <a href="mailto:schommer@creditriver-mn.gov">schommer@creditriver-mn.gov</a> Term Expires: Mar-09	<b>Supervisor Chairman</b> Weed Inspection Ditches - mowing Snowplowing Road & Bridge Access Inspection	
<b>Bruce Nilsen</b> Phone: (612) 490-0711 <a href="mailto:nilsen@creditriver-mn.gov">nilsen@creditriver-mn.gov</a> Term Expires: Mar-10	<b>Supervisor Vice-Chair</b> Annexation Fiscal Impact Study Road & Bridge Development Team Board Liaison to Savage	
<b>Al Aspengren</b> Phone: (952) 486-9102 <a href="mailto:aspengren@creditriver-mn.gov">aspengren@creditriver-mn.gov</a> Term Expires: Mar-09	<b>Supervisor</b> Fire Protection Committee Community Septic Liaison Environment NPDES Compliance Weed Inspection Budget	
<b>Tom Kraft</b> Phone: (612) 384-3631 <a href="mailto:kraft@creditriver-mn.gov">kraft@creditriver-mn.gov</a> Term Expires: Mar-09	<b>Supervisor</b> Town Hall Snowplowing Development Team Fiscal Impact Study Road & Bridge Budget	
<b>Brent Lawrence</b> Phone: (612) 270-0403 <a href="mailto:lawrence@creditriver-mn.gov">lawrence@creditriver-mn.gov</a> Term Expires: Mar-11	<b>Supervisor</b> Fire Protection Committee Website/Technology Board Liaison to Savage Parks	
<b>Jerry Maas</b> Phone: (612) 414-1722 <a href="mailto:clerk@creditriver-mn.gov">clerk@creditriver-mn.gov</a> Term Expires: Mar-10	<b>Clerk</b> Agendas/Minutes Elections Building Permits Data Practices Act Requests Legal Notices	
<b>Holly Batton</b> Phone: (952) 270-4175 <a href="mailto:treasurer@creditriver-mn.gov">treasurer@creditriver-mn.gov</a> Term Expires: Mar-09	<b>Treasurer</b> Financial Reporting Township Financial Records Escrow Balances/Refunds Community Septic Billing Assessment Search Contact	

## Storm Water Run Off Information

One area of concern in the township is storm water discharge. This area is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency but is administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The M.P.C.A. issues National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits as well as Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) general permits.

Under the MS4, Credit River Township (CRT) is required to do certain things including locating and mapping culverts greater than twenty four inches in diameter and discharges from culverts into ponds, lakes, or streams. This mapping was started in 2006 and essentially completed this year.

Other requirements under the MS4 include the following:

1. Public education and outreach, which includes teaching citizens about better storm water management. This means keeping the culvert underneath driveways free and clear of debris and leaves and not planting trees or plants at the inlet or outlet.
2. Public participation: Includes citizens in solving storm water pollution problems. This includes a required annual meeting and an annual report. We have an annual meeting in conjunction with the county and submit an annual report to the MPCA. We also discuss this issue at our annual township meeting.
3. A plan to detect and eliminate illicit discharges to the storm water system (Like chemical dumping and waste water connections). We continue to look for these illicit discharges in the township.
4. Construction and post construction site runoff controls. The Township contracts with Scott Soil & Water Conservation to handle this.
5. Pollution prevention and municipal "good housekeeping" measures.

**As a resident of CRT, you can help reduce storm water pollution by doing the following:**

- \* Fertilize your lawn with phosphorous free fertilizer and avoid over spraying fertilizer into the street.
- \* Keep under driveway culvert clean and free of debris.
- \* Rake leaves and grass clippings away from curbs and sewer inlets.
- \* Home gutters should be directed onto your lawn and not toward the curb.

If you need further information about storm water issues, please **contact Supervisor Al Aspengren**.



## Community Septic Treatment Systems

Four developments (**Monterey Heights, South Passage, Stonebridge, and Territory**) within Credit River have community septic treatment systems or CSTS. These septic systems are designed so that each property has its own septic tank where solids settle out but they share a common mound system. These septic tanks are pumped (by the township) once every three years, just like those of individual septic treatment systems. The water flows out of the settlement tank into a pumping chamber where it eventually leads to a community (or common) treatment system. The waste is processed and the clean water is released to the soil.

The CSTS are set up as Subordinate Service Districts (SSDs). These SSDs are a geographic area within a township in which the town provides services at a higher level than are provided generally throughout the township. The services are paid for by revenues within the district. SSDs can exist for different purposes but the ones in Credit River are considered environmental.

There is a gray control panel on each property as well as a green manhole. These are parts of the wastewater treatment system. Service personnel may need to access the control panel and manhole for periodic maintenance. The control panel is connected to a phone line so the operator can monitor for alarm conditions. A failure immediately calls the service provider. If you hear an audible alarm, please contact Jacques Whitford EcoCheck, the professional wastewater operations company contracted by the township to operate, maintain, and monitor our CSTS. During normal business hours, please call 651-255-5075.

The cost to operate, maintain, monitor, and capital replacement for the systems, is charged monthly to the property owners within the SSD. This utility charge is invoiced on the first of each month and mailed as a blue and white postcard. The township does not accept credit card payments at this time but ACH is available upon request.

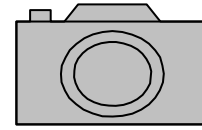
For more information on the community septic treatment systems, please go to our website [www.creditriver-mn.gov](http://www.creditriver-mn.gov) where you can find complete homeowner guides for each system. If you have any questions about the monthly billing, please contact the township treasurer at [treasurer@creditriver-mn.gov](mailto:treasurer@creditriver-mn.gov) or 952-440-5515.

## Credit River Township Building Permits Required

Do you drive past that green sign as you cross into Credit River several times a day and ever really see it? What does it mean?

Building permits are required in Credit River. Several building project permits must start right at the town hall. If you wish to build a house, add on to your house, build an accessory building, construct a deck, or put in a pool; you must initiate the permit process with the township clerk. Permits for siding, roofing, and interior remodeling do not need to start at the township and you can go directly to the Scott County building inspection desk or call 952-496-8475 for more information.

A detailed process will be outlined on our official website soon! In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact the township clerk at [clerk@creditriver-mn.gov](mailto:clerk@creditriver-mn.gov) or 952-440-5515.



## Photo Contest

Check out [www.creditriver-mn.gov](http://www.creditriver-mn.gov) to see the awesome photos that were submitted to the Credit River Photo Contest. The photo on the first page of this Newsletter "*December Dawn in Creekwood*" was submitted to the contest by Mary Feeney. All photos were taken within the Township. Resident on-line voting for the contest ended on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The three photos receiving the most votes will be displayed for three months on the website home page. The top five winning photographers will receive prizes donated by Township organizations and businesses.

Watch the website and upcoming Newsletters for information on contest winners.

## CRIME PREVENTION UPDATE

Did you know that a deputy from the Scott County Sheriff's Department appears, time allowing, once a month at the township board meetings to present the monthly report of activity and answer questions?

Did you know that the Sheriffs' Office Five Points of the Star newsletter can be found on the Scott County Website [www.co.scott.mn.us](http://www.co.scott.mn.us) under the Sheriff's tab?

Did you know that neighbors can form Neighborhood Watch Groups which is a collaboration of neighbors watching over neighbors? For more information, contact Sheriff Deputy Mary Hensel at 952-496-8722 or [mhensel@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:mhensel@co.scott.mn.us).

**If you would like to receive future Newsletters via email please submit your email address on line at [www.creditriver-mn.gov](http://www.creditriver-mn.gov).**



## In The Next Issue...

- **Township Election Information**
- **Candidate Profiles**
- **Fiscal Impact Study Update**
- **Common Phrases Used by the Board (CUP, Urban Expansion, DRT, Rural Residential)**
- **Prior Lake Annexation Update**
- **Joint Powers Agreement with Savage Update**
- **Supervisor's Column**
- **County Commissioner Column**



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# Credit River Township Officers



Front Row L to R: Brent Lawrence, Leroy Schommer, Bruce Nilsen  
Back Row L to R: Jerry Maas, Al Aspengren, Holly Batton, Tom Kraft

**Chairman Leroy Schommer – 612-290-0506**  
**Vice-Chair Bruce Nilsen – 612-490-0711**  
**Supervisor Al Aspengren – 952-486-9102**  
**Supervisor Tom Kraft – 612-384-3631**  
**Supervisor Brent Lawrence – 612-270-0403**  
**Clerk Jerry Maas – 612-414-1722**  
**Treasurer Holly Batton – 952-270-4175**

## Township Meeting Information

**Credit River Township meetings are free and open to the public. Check the bulletin board at the town hall, the website or the local newspaper the week before the meeting date for current Agenda and meeting information. Township Board of Supervisors meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.**

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*This Newsletter is provided as a service to the residents of Credit River Township by volunteers with final content approval by the Credit River Township Board of Supervisors. The goal of this Newsletter is to promote residents' awareness of and involvement in township government and community affairs. The Newsletter strives to be politically neutral and non-commercial.*

*If you have any questions, comments, requests or suggestions, please email [newsletter@creditriver-mn.gov](mailto:newsletter@creditriver-mn.gov).*

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